



# **BITS OF GOLD**

## **Montana Talking Book Library**

Regional Library of the National Library Service  
For the Blind and Physically Handicapped  
(NLS/BPH)

**Volume 106, Number 1**

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**2006**

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### **NEW ANNUAL CATALOG AVAILABLE**

The 2004 NLS Cassette Book Catalog in large print is now available. It is a catalog of talking books produced on cassette during 2004 for adult and young adult readers. The nonfiction and fiction sections list books by subject categories. Separate listings identify teen selections, Spanish language books and bestsellers. If you have not received a copy of this catalog, call the library and we will send you one.

### **TALKING MAGAZINES**

Choice Magazine Listening (CML) is a free bimonthly 4-track audiotape anthology of the very best in contemporary magazine writing. Since 1962, CML has been bringing our special audience great unabridged articles, essays, fiction, and poetry from over 100 outstanding publications such as *National Geographic*, *Smithsonian*, *The New Yorker*, *Sports Illustrated*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Paris Review*, and more. Other periodicals offering readers a one-time sample of various magazines are Magazine of the Month and Young Adult Magazine of the Month. Subscribers may expect to receive some of the following: *Creative Knitting*, *Dog World*, etc. Contact Janet at The Montana Talking Book Library.

### **MONTANA AUTHOR DIES**

Montana author Roberta Carkeek Cheney died December 1 at the age of 93 in the same Cameron home where she was born. She wrote, edited, or co-authored thirteen books and more than 100 magazine and newspaper articles. We have recorded Names on the Face of Montana (MCB 428) and are making an effort to obtain her other books for recording.

**PATRON PICKS**

- RC 54393      The Twilighters by Noel M. Loomis (western)  
RC 23138      An American Tragedy by Theodore Dreiser (classic)  
RC 59133      A Garden in the Rain by Lynn Kurland (fantasy)  
RC 58437      The Eve of Destruction: The Untold Story of the Yom  
Kippur War by Howard Blum  
RC 58120      The Hidden Power of Animals: Uncovering the Secrets of  
Nature by Karl Shuker  
RC 60163      Shane by Jack Schaefer (classic western)

**LIBRARIAN'S LOG: from the desk of Christie Briggs, Regional Librarian**  
New Website Design

As of February 1, 2006, the Montana State Library and Talking Book Library are in compliance with the Governor's new design and layout for all Montana state agencies. Visit us at: <http://msl.mt.gov/tbl/>

2006-2010 Strategic Plan

The Montana State Library departments have developed a combined strategic plan. Email me at: [cbriggs@mt.gov](mailto:cbriggs@mt.gov) with your feedback. The Strategic Plan is on the Montana State Library's website:

<http://montanalibraries.org/BusinessPlan/BPInvite.asp>

The department objectives are integrated together. Talking Book Library objectives will have key words such as "eligible patron" or "disabled" or "National Library Service" or other words related to the needs of citizens with low vision, blindness, physical and/or reading handicaps.

WebOpac

I want to thank every patron who orders through WebOpac for your patience during the past months while we have been redesigning our website. Within our new website there is a menu list on the left margin of our main page. Below this find the Catalog heading. Click on the "Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL)" link and you will go directly to WebOpac. You will need your ID and password. You can also save the WebOpac address by saving it in your favorites: <http://klasweb.msl.mt.gov>

Montana Braille Twin Vision and Tactile Book Collection (MBT)

We now have a small collection of Montana Braille Twin Vision (MBT) books for patron loan. Braille Twin Vision books are regular print books with illustrations that have a clear plastic Braille overlay placed over the text so that both blind, low vision and sighted individuals can share a book together. This collection is mainly for grades K-12 with a few adult books. It is a combination of Braille Twin Vision and Tactile books with the majority of Twin Vision books brailled by volunteers at the Montana Talking Book Library. These books can be checked out through WebOpac as well as by calling the library. The loan period for MBT's is two months (or 60 days) which is the same for cassette books and magazines in our collection.

Center for the Book

The Montana Committee for the Humanities is sponsoring the "Center for the Book" program. "Letters from Yellowstone" by Diane Smith (MCB 552) is this year's pick.

Reader Advisor Changes

We were sad to see Cheryl Christopher retire at the end of November, 2005. She spent six years in the Montana Talking Book Library as a Reader Advisor. Cheryl served a third of our patron population with excellent service. We wish her well in her new ventures.

We are happy to announce the arrival of Sandy Stanton, our new Reader Advisor. Sandy joined us on January 23, 2006. She is enjoying getting to know the patrons assigned to her and their reading needs (patrons with last names H-O). Please give Sandy a call and welcome her to "Big Sky" country!

Summer Reading Program Theme

The state theme for this year's Summer Reading program is "Paws, Claws, and Scales". Patrons of the Montana Talking Book Library can get more information on this program by contacting Sandy Stanton at 1-800-332-3400.

**SPRING CLEANING?** Spring has arrived and it's time to return those overdue books. Hop right over and rescue them from the dust bunnies under the couch, chair, bed, table, and nightstand! If you're not into hopping, enlist a friend to find them for you. We would really appreciate getting them back so they can hop on out to other readers.

**FROM THE RECORDING BOOTH by Diane Gunderson**

Recently the Recording Program was honored to have Helena author Leonard Schonberg record another one of his newest books "Morgen's War" (MCB 827). Other titles recently recorded from the Montana Recording Program include:

**MCB 812 "Good Night Chet" A Biography of Chet Huntley** by Lyle Johnston; Reader-Charles Hicks

A biography of NBC newsman Chet Huntley that covers his youth on a farm in Montana, his education and his graduation from the University of Washington, his development as a radio personality and news reporter, his retirement from the news business, his supervision of the Big Sky resort development in Montana, and his death from cancer in 1974 at the age of 62.

**MCB 827 Morgen's War** by Leonard Schonberg; Reader-Leonard Schonberg Robert Morgen, a New York physician, moves to Vermont in search of a less stressful lifestyle. Discontented with practicing medicine and the loss of his son to his wife's custody, Robert volunteers to work as a physician in the border town of Peshawar, Pakistan, during the Russian-Afghan war in 1986. Some strong language, descriptions of sex and violence.

**MCB 831 From Poplar to Papua** by Martin J. Kidston; Reader-Ruth Straley This book tells the compelling stories of the Montana National Guard's 163rd Infantry Regiment in World War II. Kidston shares the stories of courage, triumph and personal sacrifices made by the young soldiers from Montana.

**WAITING FOR A BOOK?** We have a record number of patrons on waiting lists for new books. Please return your books as soon as you have finished reading them so that others may enjoy them too.

### **DONATIONS AND MEMORIALS FROM 2005**

The Montana Talking Book Library staff appreciates the thoughtfulness of those who contributed to our library in 2005. Acknowledgements are sent to all donors. Their generosity enables us to purchase equipment and provide programs that our budget does not cover. Our patrons will enjoy many years of pleasure from these gifts. When making a donation in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone, please include the name of the person for whom the tribute is made and the name and address of those to be notified. All gifts are tax-deductible. Many thanks and blessings to the following contributors:

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Montana Assoc. for the Blind, Inc.

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DJ “Don” & Doug Dundas	Montana Historical Society Press
Miriam L. Eldredge	Kathleen D. Nickel
Genevieve M. & Edward W. Emery	Ruth O’Connell
LaVonne E. Eva	Adele Paulson
Myrtle Faught	Noel Phillips
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Antonia Therriault	Cylene Wood
Bob Tubbs	Donna Wynn
Barbara C. Van Cleave	Chris Wulf
Aileen & James S. Veltkamp	Marie Cassidy

**MEMORIALS IN HONOR OF:**

**Ilene Baertsch**—Loyal & Dorothy Baertsch  
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**Col. Richard L. Belt**—Mildred Emerson  
**Helen Bundt**—Audrey & Orris Anderson  
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**Gerald Ferguson**—Betty Ferguson  
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**Gerald Graham**—Mary Graham  
**Virginia Grube**—Helen Buker  
**Christian A. Hansen**—Marjorie Hansen  
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**Estate of Vernia Regina Mikesell**—Elizabeth Scanlin, Attorney

**Thelma Rader**—Kevin & Wendy Wetherell

**Wilbur Rinehart**—DeLane Newgard

**Nancy Robinson**—Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth

**Dorothy Rosseland**—Maureen & Russell Curtiss

**Mary Margaret Seamans**—Stella Koskie

**Antonia “Tony” Therriault**—Elizabeth & Jack Fleming, Frank & Marjorie McElwain, Agnes & John Nelson, Nina Nielsen, Lewis Richlie, Marjorie Sterrett, Mary Ann Sullivan, Helen Beller Ekeland

### **THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON THESE HOLIDAYS**

Monday, May 29, 2006

Memorial Day

Tuesday, July 4, 2006

Independence Day

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**Montana Talking Book Library  
1515 East Sixth Avenue  
PO Box 201800  
Helena, MT 59620-1800**

**Free Matter  
for the Blind**

**Address Service Requested**

**This newsletter is available on cassette, e-mail and large print upon request or visit our website: <http://msl.mt.gov/tbl>**

**LIBRARY HOURS:** Mon-Fri 8am-5pm  
**PHONE NUMBERS:** 1-800-332-3400  
**WEBOPAC:** <http://klasweb.msl.mt.gov>

**PHONE HOURS:** Mon-Fri 9am-5pm  
(in Helena) 406-444-2064  
**WEBBRAILLE:** <http://loc.gov/nls/braille>

**REGIONAL LIBRARIAN:**  
**COORD. VOL /DIR RECORDING SVC:**  
**COLLECTION MANAGER:**  
**MACHINE LENDING AGENT:**  
**READERS' ADVISORS:**

Christie Briggs, [cbriggs@mt.gov](mailto:cbriggs@mt.gov)  
Diane Gunderson, [dgunderson@mt.gov](mailto:dgunderson@mt.gov)  
Carolyn Meier, [cameier@mt.gov](mailto:cameier@mt.gov)  
Lee Madison

Patrons with last names A-G contact:  
Patrons with last names H-O contact:  
Patrons with last names P-Z contact:

Janet Hunter, [jahunter@mt.gov](mailto:jahunter@mt.gov)  
Sandra Stanton, [sstanton@mt.gov](mailto:sstanton@mt.gov)  
Lee Madison, [lmadison@mt.gov](mailto:lmadison@mt.gov)  
Janet Hunter

**BITS OF GOLD EDITOR:**

**For patron requests or contact information, e-mail us at: [mtbl@mt.gov](mailto:mtbl@mt.gov)**

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